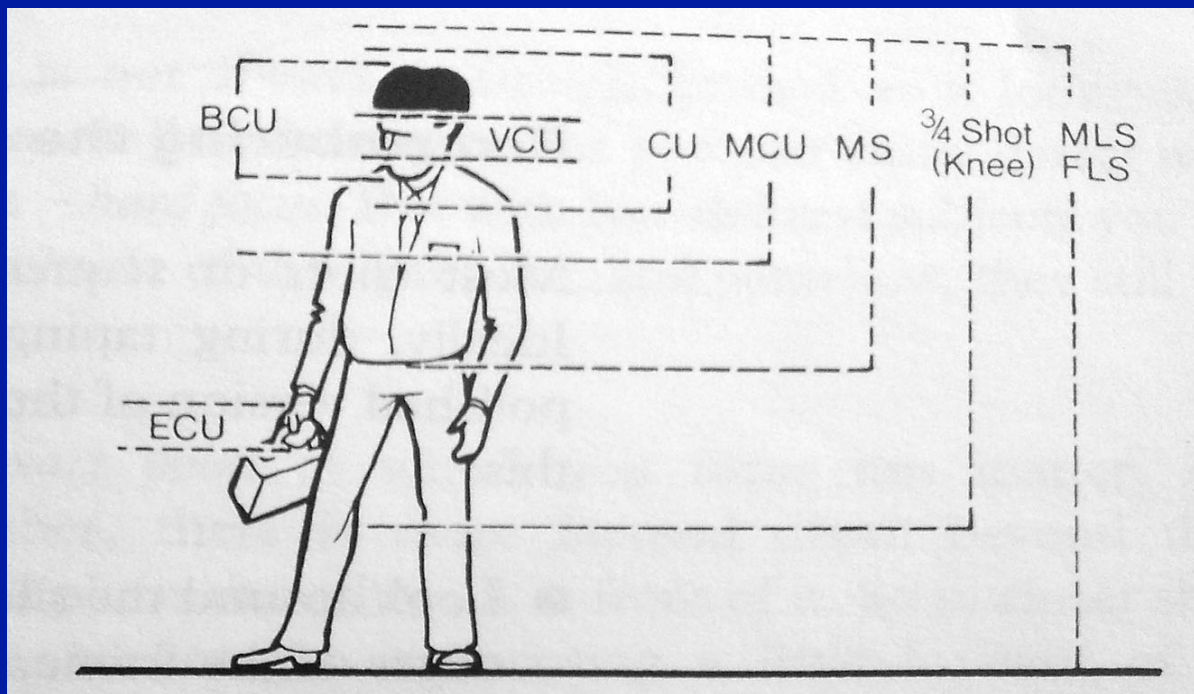


OPERATIONAL TECHNIQUES

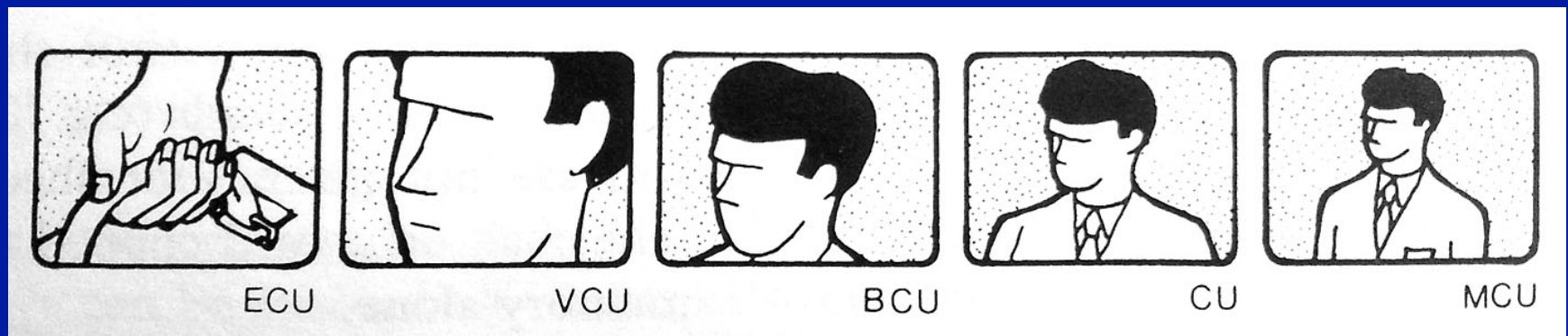
Shot composition (lens coverage)

- A series of terms have evolved to describe how to effectively film/videorecord people.
- **Hint:** None of the lines go through joints!



Shot composition (lens coverage)

- **Detail shot** (extreme close-up): capture isolated detail
- **Face shot** (very close-up): mid-forehead to chin
- **Big close-up**: full head height
- **Close-up**: head and upper chest
- **Medium close-up**: head and lower chest



Shot composition (lens coverage)

- **Medium shot:** cuts just below the waist
- **Knee shot:** cuts just below the knee
- **Medium long:** full body with head room
- **Long shot:** person occupies $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ screen height
- **Extreme long shot:** person occupies less than $\frac{1}{2}$ screen height



Shot composition (camera viewpoint)

- You can orient your subject in a variety of ways:
 - Frontal shot
 - Profile or side shot
 - Three-quarters frontal
 - back or rear shot
- You can change the height of the camera
 - low shot
 - level shot
 - high shot
 - overhead shot

Shot composition (camera viewpoint)

- Demonstration video 1: shots - implied proximity
- Demonstration video 2: basic camera shots

Filming a documentary: footage

- At the beginning of every shot, you should include metadata.
 - In professional settings a **slate (clapperboard)** is used to designate and mark particular scenes and takes during a production, and to sync audio with video.
 - For our purposes, it's easier to write on white paper and clap with our hands.
 - **Write down:** Title of event, date, camera person, shot (scene) number

Filming a documentary: footage

- Capturing the event
 - Remember, your goal is to capture the event (e.g. dance, storytelling session, interview, conversation)
 - Record the event in its entirety, to the best of your abilities.
 - Record the event using the best viewing angle

Filming a documentary: footage

- Every film needs be structured in order to help orient the viewers.
- Before any scene with primary subjects or main events, there are scenes to establish information.
- An **establishing shot** sets up the context for a scene
 - To establish settings: generally a long shot is used to indicate where and when the event takes place.
 - To preface an event: a narrator or on-screen person informs the viewer about the event which they are about to see.

Filming a documentary: footage

- Additional materials
 - Interview participants about the event, before and after. This helps with contextualization.
 - Gather B-roll (cutaway) shots, before and after the event. These are filler shots use to help contextualize dialog and to cover edits.
- Demonstration video 3:
[filming a micro-documentary](#)